Preschool is an institution for learning before the years of elementary school, but should this choice become a mandate from the government? The option to attend preschool should be left up to the parents or guardians of the children. Parents can attest to the particular needs of their individual child and make this decision. Mandatory, government funded preschool is not necessary in America's society in all instances so the directive should not be placed to affect all people.

Originally, individual families were responsible for the pre-school education of their children. Since the 1960s, some parents have grown to depend upon preschool. "In 2001, 52 percent of three- and four-year-olds were in a nursery school or preschool program" (Answers.com). The most common reason for attending pre-school is need for socialization and the hope of greater academic advantages for the young children. There are many positives to attending preschool for certain individuals. Families that need a dual income usually send their children to preschool because it provides a variety educational experiences that the parents are too busy to encompass at home (Wollman). Children who have attended preschool are more emotionally prepared for kindergarten than those that have not spent a significant amount of time away from home (Stewart). The undeniable advantage of preschool is that it will help children develop necessary social skills with peers that they might not otherwise obtain through staying at home. In these specific cases, preschool can be beneficial.

Although people usually consider the positives, there are many strong disadvantages of preschool. (Paragraph 3: disadvantages)

(Paragraph 4: rebuttal arguments for; compare/contrast; cause/effect)

Preschool is a great option for some people, but this is not the best option for everyone. No one in my family has attended preschool and we are all socially and academically equal to our peers. I am glad that I was not subjugated to the unrelenting monotony of public school any sooner. Even in preschool there is a time and a place to do every planned activity. With a parent or caregiver at home, my siblings and I were free to express ourselves by choosing activities that interested us as individuals. By using this creativity, we were able to retain any information we discover about the world around us. My family also participated in social activities and sports to help us develop social skills with children our own age. In my case, preschool was not the best option. In order for the government to mandate an activity, the activity must help the whole society or help a large majority of those affected. Young children are so developmentally different from each other it would be impossible for preschool to be the best option for all of them and preschool has no effect in the long term. Preschool should not become required.

Government funded, mandatory preschool is not advantageous for society economically or academically. Preschool does not allow students to get ahead academically. Other than the social aspect, preschool holds no other strong positive arguments that apply to all students. The multitudes of alternative programs each provide their own advantages. To declare preschool as the unsurpassed option for all is to underestimate the clear individuality of children. Preschool would be an unnecessary expense for our government. The choice should be left up to parents to decide what is best for their individual children.

(not done)